

# Backcountry Camping Trip Guide

## One Night

National Park Service  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Shenandoah National Park  
Emergency: 1-800-732-0911



## Overall Run and Beecher Ridge

Standard - Circuit

**Level:** Experienced or Strenuous Beginner

**Total Length:** 12 to 14 miles

**Trip Description:** Highest waterfalls in park (93'), cascades, swimming hole, and wilderness ridge

**Entry:** 21 MP - Hogback or MP 21.1 Parking

**Exit:** 21 MP - Hogback or MP 21.1 Parking

**Map(s):** PATC # 9 North District

### Day One

Campsite: Overall Run Trail - backcountry

5.8 to 6.2 miles

Drive to the parking area on the south end of Hogback Overlook.

Find Appalachian Trail (AT) on south side of parking area and hike south 0.4 mile.

Turn right onto Tuscarora/Overall Run Trail and hike for 5.2 miles, enjoying two waterfalls.

When Tuscarora and Overall Run Trails split, stay left on Overall Run Trail, hiking at least 0.2 mile.

Be sure to visit the side trail to the cascades (shortly after the Tuscarora-Overall split) Look for camping possibilities in the next 0.4 mile (before intersecting the Beecher-Overall Run Connector Trail), or, for camping capable of accommodating groups up to 10, when the Beecher-Overall Run Connector Trail comes in on your left, continue straight, down an old road trace, and find a place to camp well below the intersection.

### Day Two

5.6 to 6 miles

Hike up the Beecher-Overall Connector Trail, 0.7 mile.

Turn left onto Beecher Ridge Trail and hike 2.3 miles.

Turn right onto Mathews Arm Trail and hike 0.8 mile.

Turn left onto Traces Trail and hike 0.6 mile.

Turn left onto connector then right onto Tuscarora/Overall Run Trail, 0.8 mile.

Turn left onto AT and hike north to parking area, 0.4 mile.

### Notes

### Options

Add 2 miles on the second day by hiking down Beecher Ridge Trail into Heiskell Hollow Trail (total of 0.9 on Beecher and 2.5 on Heiskell), then use Weddlewood Trail (1.3 miles) to reconnect with Mathews Arm Trail. (See both sides of Map #9; there is an inset of the Mathews Arm/Elkwallow area.)

During the summer and fall when Mathews Arm Campground is open, you may make the loop slightly shorter by leaving from Mathews Arm Campground Parking, to the right of the campground registration station.